

NEWS

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HEALTH DISTRICT NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE EXERCISE

The Central District Health Department (CDHD) Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) needs volunteers to participate in a public health emergency exercise involving the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), June 26th and 29th in Mountain Home. The SNS is a federal program managed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designed to get medicine and medical supplies to any community in the U.S. quickly in response to a natural or man-made disaster.

On **Monday, June 26th**, thirty volunteers are needed for a ***Decontamination Exercise***. "Volunteers will get wet (with water) and will need to bring a dry set of clothes to the event," according to Joca Veloz, Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator, at CDHD. This event will be held in the K-Mart parking lot, 2800 American Legion Blvd. in Mountain Home.

On **Thursday, June 29th** 800 volunteers are needed for a ***Point Of Dispensing*** (POD) exercise. This event will be held at the Mountain Home Junior High, 1600 East 6th South. In an actual public health emergency, it may be necessary for the health district to dispense medications to thousands of people in a short time frame. The 800 volunteers needed on June 29th will be run through the POD and receive simulated medications.

The Medical Reserve Corps is a community-based network of volunteers who assist health district staff prepare and respond to public health emergencies or

EXERCISE VOLUNTEERS – ADD ONE

disasters. The exercise is designed to test Public Health Preparedness in response to a man-made public health emergency. Because response to any type of public health emergency would include response partners and volunteers from the community, all facets of emergency response agencies in Elmore County will participate in the exercise.

“Medical Reserve Corps volunteers contribute their time and talents throughout the year to help promote community public health as well as participate in exercises and training designed to improve the public health infrastructure of their neighborhoods and communities,” said Veloz. To become a MRC member or to volunteer for one or both events, please register online at www.cdhd.idaho.gov or contact Joca Veloz at Central District Health Department, (208) 327-8597.

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